



FAMILY INTERNET SAFETY PLEDGE

An *Internet Safety Pledge* can help provide clear guidelines for safer Internet use. We hope that it will serve to promote open discussions about computer use between parents and their children and assist parents with creating safer boundaries for your children's computer use. Our pledge to families in our school community is to help reinforce the safe and appropriate use of technology. We look forward to this partnership and if you have any questions or concerns about your child's use of their MLTI laptop, we encourage you contact us.

1. I WILL TALK WITH MY PARENTS OR GUARDIAN ABOUT THEIR EXPECTATIONS AND GROUND RULES FOR GOING ONLINE

I will talk with my parents or guardian so that we can set up rules for going online. The rules will include the time of day that I may be online, the length of time I may be online, whom I may communicate with while online, and appropriate areas for me to visit while online. I will not break these rules or access other areas without their permission. I will never download anything from anyone I don't know.

2. I WILL KEEP MY IDENTITY PRIVATE

I will never share personal information such as my full name, my mailing address, my telephone number, the name of my school, or any other information that could help someone determine my actual identity. I will also not reveal any personal information about my friends or family. I will never send a person my picture or anything else without first checking with my parents or guardian.

3. I WILL NEVER RESPOND TO ANY ONLINE COMMUNICATION THAT MAKES ME FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE

I will tell a trusted adult if I come across any information that makes me feel scared, uncomfortable, or confused. I will never respond to any messages that are rude or offensive in any way. I will show the message to a trusted adult right away so that he or she can decide if it's necessary to contact the online service or other authorities.

4. I WILL NEVER MEET IN PERSON WITH ANYONE I HAVE FIRST "MET" ONLINE WITHOUT DISCUSSING IT WITH MY PARENTS OR GUARDIAN

Since the biggest danger to my safety is getting together with someone I have first "met" online, I won't meet in person with anyone unless my parents or guardian agrees to the meeting, they will go with me to the meeting, and the meeting will be in a public place.

5. I WILL RESPECT OTHER PEOPLE'S RIGHTS WHILE ONLINE

The Internet is a large community; therefore, my behavior while on it affects others. I will always treat others with courtesy and respect. I will also respect copyright laws and check on sources. When writing reports I will make sure that the online sources of information are credible, and I will always cite my sources. Piracy is illegal and keeps authors, artists, and others from getting paid for their work. I will never download things such as pictures, games, music, or movies that have not been given to the public for free.

For more information about safe and appropriate use of the Internet, visit www.netismartz.org

** See the signature page to acknowledge having read this page **

COMPUTER/INTERNET ACCESS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

DATE: September, 2008

Dear Parents:

Internet access is available through a T1 line to students and instructional staff in the Deer Isle – Stonington Community Schools. As most of you know, the Internet is a network connecting computers all around the world. Through this network, students and instructional staff have access to a great variety of educational resources. Students at DISES also have access to our local network system that offers them additional resources and connectivity. The local network is primarily a means for registering and track individual computer and Internet use and provides students and instructional staff with storage space for files.

The benefit of the Internet is that it expands access to powerful educational tools and resources. The Deer Isle – Stonington Community Schools feel strongly that access to these tools and resources are essential to the quality of our schools. By opening up our classrooms to information and experiences, improving communication with people outside the walls of our school (including parents and community members), and through the development of 21st century skills, technology is a vital educational asset that can enhance student engagement and achievement.

Although the benefits of the Internet are significant, students, educators and parents should be aware that the Internet provides access to a variety of types of information and materials that are inappropriate for students/children. The Deer Isle – Stonington Community Schools have taken steps to filter and limit student access to inappropriate content on the Internet. Schools, by law, are required maintain an Internet filtering system. Here in Maine, the Maine School Libraries Network (MSLN) provides Internet filtering systems for all Maine schools. While filters are designed to restrict access to inappropriate content, it is impossible for any Internet filtering system to block all inappropriate content or content that individual families might find objectionable. For this reason, we are asking parents for their partnership in working to instill safe and responsible student attitudes, reinforcing appropriate behaviors, and observing security and safety guidelines related to Internet and network use.

The following page outlines our district's (CSD 13) **Student Computer and Internet Use Policy**. Students must agree to adhere to these policies before being provided access to the school's network or Internet connection. We hope that parents will review this policy with their children and work with us to help promote safe and responsible computer use by students. Each student and a parent or legal guardian of that student must sign this form before gaining the privilege of utilizing the school computer and Internet resources. Their signatures on this document are legally binding and indicate that you have read and understand the conditions and responsibilities outlined in the policy.

** See the signature page to agree to the conditions and responsibilities outlined in the policy. **

DISES MLTI LAPTOPS

General Expectations for Home Use

MLTI laptops are issued to all 7th and 8th grade students in Maine and are the property of the Maine Department of Education. The laptops are “on-loan” to students and teachers to use as a tool to enhance learning. These powerful learning assets are intended for use as a part of classroom activities and at home in the evenings or on the weekend to complete school related assignments and educational activities. The laptops are not intended to be used as toys or go home and become a *gaming* device. Students should be considerate and demonstrate an appreciation for the fact that MLTI laptops will need to be used by other students in the future. (* Our grades K-6 students are currently using old MLTI laptops that first went into service seven (7) years ago. Appropriate use of the laptops can save our school district tax-payers a great deal of money if we work together to care for the laptops.

HANDLING and CARE

- Protect the laptop from the elements and avoid excessive heat or cold.
- Do not charge the laptop in the carry case – it can cause damage from over-heating
- Do not eat or drink near where you are using the laptop
- Use the laptop on a flat, stable surface to avoid dropping it on the floor
- Mishandling or abuse of the laptop will result in restrictions being placed on its use
- Abuse or illegal use of your laptop may result in legal consequences
- Do not attempt to repair the laptop yourself or alter the device (e.g. stickers, tape)
- Be patient when using the laptop, pressing the start button repeatedly is not advised
- Keep the ID tag on the computer at all times and place a ID card in clear pocket
- Open and close the screen carefully and do not place fingers on the LCD screen
- Do not use any alcohol based or abrasive cleaning solution on the laptop
- Check often for frays in your charger cords

Parents are encouraged to also look over the MLTI Laptop Guidelines. All students have gone over these guidelines with their teachers and signed forms agreeing to adhere to those guidelines. The copy provided tonight is for you to keep and refer back to if necessary to help reinforce those guidelines at home.

DAMAGE – THEFT – LOSS

This year we are requiring all students that will be taking their laptops home, pay a twenty dollar (\$20) *maintenance fee*. The cost for insuring laptops has increased significantly and in light of recommendations and supports from the MLTI Project Office we have decided to “*self-insure*” our laptops. The fee will allow us to more securely cover the need for maintenance and replacement of laptops that occur from accidental damages. Most normal wear and tear of the laptops is already covered by the MLTI Project Office.

What is not covered by the school through this fee, and remains the sole responsibility of the student and/or his or her parent(s), are cost for repairs or replacement of laptops that are the result of intentional damage or negligent care.

Money not used during the year from collected fees will be spent at the end of the school year by 7th and 8th grade teachers to maintain or upgrade classroom technology resources.

AT HOME

- We strongly recommend that laptops always be used in a common family area of the house, with adult supervision.
- Parents should ask for their child's login name and password in order to help monitor use at home. Once a laptop leaves the school... the Internet filter used at school no longer restricts open access to the Internet. If parents would like more information about ways to filter and monitor use of the laptops at home, please contact Mark Arnold at the school.
- Parents should also feel encouraged to use the laptop to access our school website (www.dises.org). On the site, make sure to keep an eye on the **Middle-Level MLTI** page and on **TechNotes**, both will contain ongoing updates and information related to the MLTI laptop use and ways parents can encourage and support appropriate use by students.
- You can set up your laptop to access your home Internet Service Provider (ISP), but if families do not have home Internet access, students are able to save web pages onto their laptop that they might need to complete assigned homework. You will need to contact your ISP for information on how to connect your laptop to the Internet in your home.

** See the signature page to agree to the expectation and responsibilities outlined in this document.**

MLTI LAPTOP AGREEMENT and SIGNATURE PAGE

The following three (3) sets of signatures are required before students may take home their MLTI laptops

Print Student Name

Print Parent(s) or Legal Guardian(s) Name

Home Phone Number

INTERNET SAFETY PLEDGE

I have read the family **Internet Safety Pledge** and agree to adhere to those guidelines and safety precautions in regard to the use of the Internet.

Student's Signature

Date

Parent or Guardian's Signature

Date

STUDENT COMPUTER AND INTERNET USE POLICY

I have read the CSD 13 **Student Computer and Internet Use Policy** and agree to the conditions and responsibilities outline in the policy.

Student's Signature

Date

Parent or Guardian's Signature

Date

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS FOR HOME USE

I have read the **General Expectations for Home Use** and agree to the expectations and responsibilities outline in this document.

Student's Signature

Date

Parent or Guardian's Signature

Date

MLTI LAPTOP PERMISSION

I have read and understand the guidelines, conditions, and responsibilities related to the use of the MLTI laptops, Internet use, and the schools network. With that knowledge and understanding I agree to the following:

- I agree to assume responsibility for monitoring and working in partnership with the school to manage the use of the MLTI laptop that my son/daughter when they are away from school (home use). I understand and accept, if it is determined that damages to the their laptop are due to negligent care or intentional abuse, that I will be responsible for covering the costs necessary to have the laptop repaired or replaced.
- I do not wish my to have my son/daughter take their laptop home at this time. I understand and accept, if it is determined that damages to the their laptop are due to negligent care or intentional abuse, that I will be responsible for covering the costs necessary to have the laptop repaired or replaced.

FEE PAID (\$20): Check Cash

Please list 2-3 ideas you might have regarding what you would like to see the school focus on in terms of your child's use of the computer to enhance their education.

We are planning to hold a tech-workshop series for parents in the winter. List any technology related skills or tools you would be interested in learning more about.